

TEACHING READING AT ALL LEVELS

Discussion

The P-16 literacy alignment team made the following recommendation acknowledging the importance of reading to increasing college-readiness and reducing the need for postsecondary remediation in English:

Prepare P-12 teachers to teach reading skills in all fields, be sensitive to reading disabilities, make referrals appropriately, and teach critical reading skills necessary to their disciplines. Reading should be a concern of teachers and faculty at all levels (not just through third grade) and in all disciplines.

What are the implications of this recommendation for classroom teaching and for teacher preparation programs?

Dr. Sara Delano Moore, director of the Commonwealth's Center for Middle School Academic Achievement housed at Eastern Kentucky University, will demonstrate how teaching reading for content and comprehension in mathematics and science classes in middle and high school can improve student learning.

Dr. Pamela Petty, assistant professor for special instructional programs at Western Kentucky University, will discuss how integrating reading instruction throughout the teacher preparation process can raise the level of teaching effectiveness.

Rene Matthews, middle and high school reading consultant for the Kentucky Department of Education, will describe the department's plan to develop a schoolwide reading plan for all schools in the Commonwealth. She also will describe a project with Kentucky Educational Television to produce professional development resource materials to be used by middle and high school teachers.

Reading, from early childhood readiness through adult literacy, is a statewide priority. The governor's second annual Literacy Summit, sponsored by the Literacy Partnership, was held in Louisville June 21, 2002. Building on the recommendations emerging from the first summit, representatives from agencies and institutions across the Commonwealth reported successful practices for promoting literacy from early childhood through adulthood.